

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A formulation containing a therapeutically effective amount of at least one Vitamin D compound or analog (for shortening the hospital stay and improving survival in patients with chronic kidney disease with or without hyperparathyroidism compared to chronic kidney disease patients that are not receiving a Vitamin D compound or analog-containing formulation).
2. A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said at least one Vitamin D compound or analog is paricalcitol.
3. A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said at least one Vitamin D compound or analog is calcitriol.
4. A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation is in injectable dosage form.
5. A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation is in oral dosage form.
6. A method of shortening hospital stays and improving survival in chronic kidney disease patients, said method comprising the step of administering a composition containing a therapeutically effective amount of at least one Vitamin D compound or analog without titrating to serum PTH or serum calcium, wherein hospital stays and survival are shortened compared to chronic kidney disease patients not receiving any Vitamin D compound or analog-containing composition.
7. A method according to claim 6, wherein said composition is administered intravenously or orally.
8. A method according to claim 7, wherein said composition is administered at least three times weekly.
9. A method according to claim 8, wherein a minimum administered dose is equivalent to 4 mcg of paricalcitol or 1 mcg of calcitriol administered three times weekly or 2 mcg of paricalcitol or 0.5 mcg of calcitriol administered daily.

10. A method according to claim 6 wherein hospital stay is shortened by at least about seven days annually.

11. A method of treating a chronic kidney disease patient to reduce hospitalizations and hospital days, comprising the step of: administering a therapeutically effective amount of Vitamin D compound or analog-containing formulation to said patient without titrating to serum calcium or serum PTH level, wherein said hospitalizations and hospital days are reduced compared to those for a chronic kidney disease patient not receiving a Vitamin D compound or analog containing formulation.

12. A method according to claim 11, wherein said patient has hyperparathyroidism.

13. A method according to claim 11, wherein said formulation comprise paricalcitol.

14. A method according to claim 11, wherein said formulation comprises calcitriol.

15. A method according to claim 11, wherein said formulation administered to said patient is equivalent to 4 mcg of paricalcitol or 1 mcg of calcitriol administered three times weekly or 2 mcg of paricalcitol or 0.5 mcg of calcitriol administered daily.

16. A method according to claim 11, wherein said administering step is conducted via injection.

17. A method according to claim 11, wherein said administering step is conducted orally.

18. A method according to claim 11, wherein hospitalization is reduced by at least about 7 days annually.